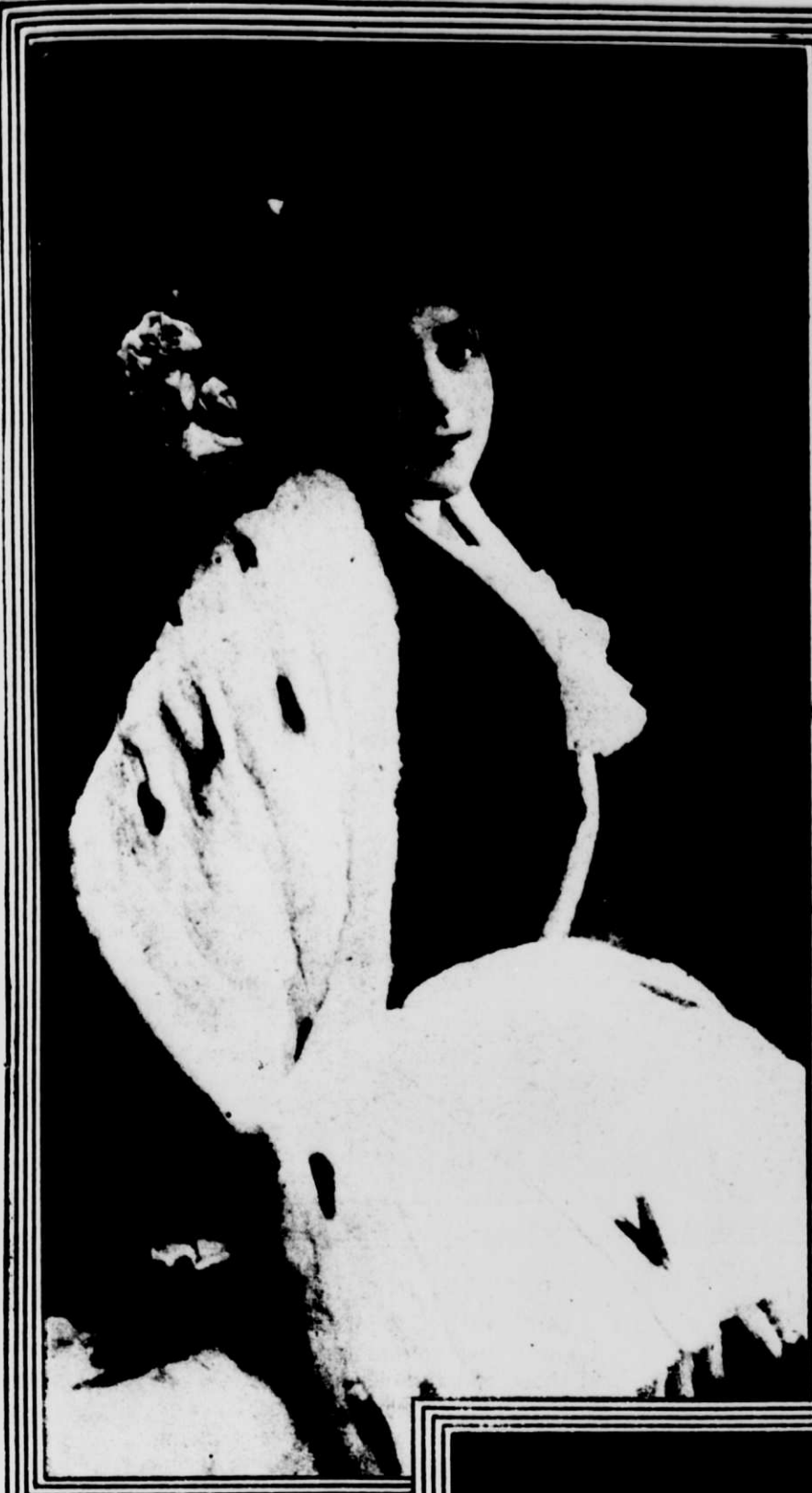


ERMINE NO LONGER RESERVED FOR ROYAL SHOULDERS



Every Woman Who Can Afford It Now Wears This Imperial Pelt — Hundreds of Dainty Animals Sacrificed to Make a Single Costume

IN the world of fashion the craze for ermine fur is still growing. There has never been such a demand for this imperial pelt as now, and what once graced royal shoulders is seen on any one who can afford it.

It is even said that another five years of its present popularity will exterminate the little animal which bears this fur. It is a sensitive, high strung creature. It is so dainty that it will not permit anything to touch its pure coat that will soil it. It will not run across mud or in any dirty place. One of the traditions about it is that no matter how much it is frightened or how closely pursued it will not cross a muddy place where it would slobber or soil its beautiful coat, and it will stand stock still and be captured rather than do this thing.

It is a tiny creature, and to make any sort of garment or muff or stole takes dozens of the little pelts. To make one of the long, beautiful coats owned by some fortunate women requires something like 175 ermine pelts.

Everything in furs this season is of such gigantic proportions that it requires a large number of skins for each piece. A big ermine muff requires at least fifty pelts and a fashionable stole anywhere from fifty to 200, according to the size.

Ermine street costumes are the rage in Paris, a close short skirt and a coat making the suit. It requires from 200 to 250 pelts for such a gown, and obviously at that rate the ermine animal must soon give up its place in natural history and go with the dodo, the passenger pigeon and the buffalo. It is said that even now some regions where they abounded are utterly barren of them; that not one is to be found where five years ago they were comparatively plentiful.

The latest explorers of the northern parts of the globe say indeed that the present craze in fashion for furs of all kinds menaces the existence of fur bearing animals of every description in the north lands and even affects human life. Inhabits of Arctic regions, no longer able to hunt the animals which once supplied them with food, are suffering from hunger merely because of woman's insatiable craze for furs of all sorts. Stefansson, the explorer, is one of those who refer to this condition.

The extinction of the beautiful little ermine is to be deeply regretted, not only because it is an exquisite little creature but also because the fur has played such a conspicuous part for centuries in the romance of the royalty of the world. It was once regarded as the property of kings and queens and for a time no one was permitted



Animal's Extermination Threatened by Growing Craze for the Fur — Ermine Street Costumes of Skirt and Coat Are Rage in Paris

form, still holding the ermine up as something a little finer than other furs. But where one makes this distinction a thousand wear the fur at all times and upon every imaginable occasion, even wearing it to market in the early morning.

Oriental Beauties

IF the woman of fashion of London, Paris or New York spent as much time over her toilet as her sister of the Far East she would have very little left in which to attend to her social and domestic duties. The Oriental belle devotes most of her day to the preservation of her health and beauty. She uses many wonderful cosmetics for coloring her eyes and brows and for beautifying her skin. On arising her hair is dressed by her maid, who massages the scalp with oil made from aloe wood or coconut. The Eastern woman will never interfere with the color of her hair, for the long silky blue black locks are considered her chief charm.

Next a very hot bath is prepared and in this she remains for two or three hours. In place of soap numberless unguents are used which render the skin as soft as velvet. These delicate perfumes are secret preparations of the bathing woman. The hair of the Oriental beauty is beautifully long and soft and they have a way of arranging it which adds a distinct charm. The face is washed over with a milk into which the juice of a lemon has been squeezed. Perfumes permeate the garments, but are seldom if ever used on a handkerchief.

Yawning as Exercise

YAWNING is said to have an exceedingly healthful function besides having a salutary effect in complaints of the pharynx and the eustachian tubes. According to investigations yawning is the most natural form of respiratory exercise, bringing into action all the respiratory muscles of the neck and chest.

It is recommended that every person should have a good yawn with the stretching of the limbs morning and evening for the purpose of ventilating the lungs and tonifying the respiratory muscles. An eminent authority asserts that this form of gymnastics has a remarkable effect in relieving throat and ear troubles, and says that patients suffering from disorders of the throat have derived great benefit from it. He says he makes his patients yawn by suggestion or imitation, or by a series of deep breaths with the lips partly closed. The yawning is repeated six or seven times and should be followed by swallowing. By this process the air and mucus in the eustachian tubes are aspirated.

to wear it who had not royal blood in democratic every woman was permitted his veins. But when the world became to wear ermine if she could get it.

It is always used at coronations and still bears a certain dignity. Women of ing nor with ordinary street clothes, on state occasions at foreign courts and taste never wear ermine in the morn-. They regard such use of the fur as bad